

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

Volume 10

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, SEPT. 30-OCT. 6, 1945

Number 14

WITHIN THE WEEK

Before we undertake to weigh the relative efficiency of U S and Russian occupation forces in their respective areas in Germany, we should consider the varying ideologies and end objectives of the two countries. On the surface, a democratic regime is likely to look pretty rough and ragged when contrasted with a sleek streamlined totalitarian set-up.

In a gov't that derives all power from a central source, if you have the power you need relatively little administrative ability and co-operation to give a surface impression of great efficiency. In a dictatorship, it's a case of order and execution (if you execute enough, you can perhaps keep order!)

Now, the U S is trying to run its segment of Germany on something approaching democratic principles; at least we seek to set up an enterprise system that will give German people a measure of their former independence. An example: in fuel distribution, U S administrators have tried plan of many small distributors functioning as independent agents. The Russian have abolished free enterprise. Fuel distribution is a state monopoly in their area.

This is an explanation (not necessarily a defense) of Gen'l Patton's action in retaining certain Nazi officials. He has doubtless felt the need for experienced

administrators to a greater degree than have the Russians. The Gen'l is a lime-light-lover, a great spawner of quotable phrases ("Nazism might well be compared to any political parties at home—Republican or Democrat.") But PATTON is also a good soldier. He will carry out Gen'l EISENHOWER's orders once there is a clear meeting of minds.

The significant point is a marked lack of Allied unity. We have no singleness of purpose in peace, as we had in war. Each nation seeks to impose its philosophy and ideology upon a chalked-out area of conquered territory. And that makes for continuing confusion and conflict. The obvious result is that tremendously important matters, concerning the welfare of the German people as a whole, are being badly bungled. Living standards thruout Europe are lower today than at any time during the course of war. There is less to eat, less to wear, less fuel to heat homes—less of everything that matters.

The Big Five foreign ministers, meeting in London, may have this matter on the agenda. But we are reminded of the old darkey retainer who once wrote Gov BOB TAYLOR, of Tenn: "Dear Massa Guvner: "They is fixin' to hang me of a Friday, and here it is Tuesday!"



SHIFTING SANDS

In the building industry we are confronted with perhaps the gravest inflation threat the country is likely to experience in the foreseeable future. While it is practicable to set ceilings on various basic materials, the final price of structure can hardly be controlled. Normal competitive conditions are absent; there is far too much business for all concerned, and it is almost too much to expect that the industry will keep prices within bounds. . . . Another disturbing consideration is the fact that quality of materials (particularly lumber) is far below prewar standard. Those who are lured into building now may well pay too much, get too little in enduring value. . . . The promised relief in meat rationing as of October 1, has turned out to be a good deal less than was generally expected. We now think that meat rationing will continue into next year, with point costs being adjusted periodically.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

The titles QUOTE and THE WEEKLY DIGEST are registered with U. S. Patent Office

"Since I rec'd the letter in confidence, I refer you to Gen'l Marshall for the text of it."—Gov THOS E DEWEY, declining to make public a letter which reputedly admitted Pres ROOSEVELT knew Japs were to attack 15 hrs before Pearl Harbor.

"I am interested, of course, in seeing the French fashions, but will not be able to buy because everything is much too expensive."—Duchess of WINDSOR, interviewed upon her recent arrival in Paris.

"The best thing the U S can do is let the German people see what a great people we are by mixing with them."—Gen'l GEO S PATTON, Jr, commenting on fraternization of occupation troops.

"Our situation is serious, but not desperate. 'Desperate' suggests despair, and no one in Britain feels that."—Lord HALIFAX, British ambassador to U S.

"I find more practical Christianity in the taverns than I do in the church."—The Rev JOHN S DAVIES, of Harden, Yorkshire, in a farewell sermon to his congregation.

"There is no room for 'striped-pants' diplomacy in this field."—ALFRED SCHINDLER, undersec'y of Commerce, warning that U S does not have effective economic foreign policy.

"There is a great moral debt owing to us who for the world's sake stood alone in gallant isolation, unafraid thru those dark early days of the war."—HUGH DALTON, British Chancellor of Exchequer, emphasizing a point that has been played down in Anglo-American discussions, at least since U S entered war. (Popular feeling here is that British, altho performing heroically, were primarily concerned in self-salvation.)

"Japan industrially, commercially, militarily and every other way is in a state of complete collapse. . . Her punishment for her sins, which is just beginning, will be long and bitter."—Gen'l DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, in an interview granted United Press.

"MAY WE

Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"I'm not smart enough for college. I'm just smart enough to go on acting."—SABU, "Elephant boy" of movies. (Recently discharged from U S Army SABU was asked if he wanted gov't aid to continue his education.)

"We decided this was the fairest way to distribute this precious loot."—Spokesman for LORD & TAYLOR, N Y dep't store, announcing distribution of 1200 prs nylon hose to Army and Navy nurses in uniform.

"I'm so exhausted, I feel like MRS America!"—BESS MYERSON, chosen at Atlantic City as "Miss America of '45."

"The public receives over the air not necessarily what it wants, but what it doesn't complain about! If you like a program, make the fact known. The channels of the ether are yours. They don't belong to the network, the stations, or the FCC."—PAUL A PORTER, chairman, FCC, in a talk made at intermission period of Columbia Symphony concert.

"The people need help, not words. Missionaries are of no use now unless they help."—TOYOHICO KAGAWA, Japanese Christian leader, explaining why he rarely preaches in these troubled times. (Quoted in Time.)

"It does get a little embarrassing, but those gents have got to have pretty legs. Knobby stems wouldn't look so good under those Roman togas."—Film Director MERVYN LEROY, interviewing actors for roles in *The Robe*. He insists that each actor show his legs. (Quoted by FREDERICK C OTHMAN in *Motion Picture Magazine*.)

"I'm too darned busy to rush around getting out of uniform."—Sgt IRVING L STUFF, who had his discharge papers, but was missing when his train left Ft Sheridan, Ill. Investigating, an officer found him busy at his job as headquarters clerk.

"We have our teeth in the cost of living and we are going to hang on like a bull pup."—CHESTER BOWLES, OPA Director, assuring shoppers that prices of most goods will be held to 1942 levels.

"Fingers that have been busy as long as mine can't be idle."—Mrs ESTHER E PRUGH, busily knitting on her 104th birthday.

"Although our names are changed we still have the same task. We have to help to build a new Europe out of the ruins of the old."—Field-Marshal MONTGOMERY, in personal message to troops after the name of British Liberation Army was changed to the British Army of the Rhine.

"I have been attracted to the motion picture industry because it offers unlimited opportunities to work for peace and prosperity at home and abroad."—ERIC JOHNSTON, pres of U S Chamber of Commerce, on succeeding WILL HAYS, as pres of Motion Picture Producers & Distributors of America, Inc.

"It looks pretty terrible!"—Comment of British woman on a govt-designed "utility" wedding dress shown in a London dep't store.

"He's hard to do because his features aren't definite enough. You can't caricature him like Pres Roosevelt or Churchill or Stalin."—ELECTRA WAGGONER, sculptress commissioned by a group of Missourians to do a statue of the President for their state capitol. She says task is the most difficult she has ever undertaken.

"If you are a Japanese soldier in British hands you don't walk—you run."—CBS correspondent BILL DOWNS, contrasting the British treatment of the Japanese in Hong Kong with the American.

"The owner of that car kept lousy care of it."—Three teen-age boys, accused of stealing an automobile; they retaliated with a bill for \$85 for repairs. The boys claimed they gave the car new paint job, fixed radio, changed the oil, spent \$20 putting in a new clutch.

" "

"As long as America can produce too much, no American should have too little."—GERALD L K SMITH, announcing slogan of newly formed Postwar Recovery commission which he states "has the best features of Townsendism, Coughlinism, Huey Long and the Payroll Guarantee Association of Calif," and "is underwritten by the America First party."

" "

"I want to say that the camel's tummy was pretty close to the deck when the atom bomb hit him."—Adm Wm HALSEY, commenting on a few newspaper reports which said the atomic bomb and Russia's entry into the war "broke the camel's back," and ended the war.

" "

"There is no other salvation for civilization, or even for the human race, than the creation of a world gov't with security on the basis of law. As long as there are sovereign states with their separate armament secrets, new world wars cannot be avoided."—Prof ALBERT EINSTEIN,

" "

"Sitting on a country with a pistol in hand will only waste young people's lives away."—GEO BERNARD SHAW, in an interview with army newspaper *Goldbrick*, announcing his belief that American forces should evacuate Japan to insure world peace, threaten her with atomic bombs if she does not behave.

" "

"Any nat'l policy which is concerned with maximum employment must help to create conditions under which employment in private industry is possible. Industry cannot employ, much less expand employment, except as it is permitted to earn a fair return."—BENJAMIN FAIRLESS, Pres of U S Steel Corporation.

"The only cure for any inflation lies in production to the point where there are more goods than idle dollars."—IRA MOSHER, pres of Nat'l Association of Manufacturers.

" "

"Kimonos may be all right for parties and ceremonial occasions, but for everyday convenience, give us trousers."—A spokesman for Japanese women who adopted slacks during war period, want to keep them both for convenience and as "a step toward emancipation."

" "

"It is my opinion that some men drive much better after a drink or two than they would in a normal state."—Dr ARTHUR EDWIN TATE, London physician, offering revolutionary opinion in trial of a driver charged with drunken driving.

" "

"He's a cornered rat. And like a rat, he'll try to bite as many people as he can before he is squashed to death."—Member of the war crimes staff in London, referring to common belief that JOACHIM VON RIBBENTROP will probably try to involve high-ranking Britons in his trial as a war criminal.

" "

"For 4 yrs I've had to buy 4 gallons at a crack and now I'm gonna buy as little as I darn please."—Basin, Wyo, motorist who pulled into filling station and said, "Gimme two" instead of usual "fill er up."

" "

"I wouldn't want to work in the civil service myself." — ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, addressing a meeting of American Widows of World War II. She cautioned the group that gov't jobs are rather dull and confining; urged them to cast about for job they really want to do.

" "

"We want the franchise for all women, but we often have considered the fact that if married women are permitted to vote, it may cause a lot of family trouble."—FUSAE ICHIKAWA, leader of Japanese suffragettes since 1920, admitting that if and when woman's suffrage becomes a reality for Japanese women, it probably will be only for unmarried ones.

"Where there is an overwhelming weight of opinion against a book it is best left unbought."—G E WILKIE, Leicester librarian, announcing that British controversy over KATHLEEN WINSOR's *Forever Amber* is so great it may be banned from Public libraries there. (It was banned in Australia on recommendation of the Literary Censorship Board.)

" "

"We do not accept sentence of death—but we do accept sentence of hard labour."—Lady VIOLET BONHAM CARTER, pres of Britain's Liberal Party, commenting on their election failure.

" "

"Former armament works which have half-finished or finished products in stock that can be converted into costume jewelry are requested."—Ad in Berlin newspaper.

" "

"Any more of that and we won't give them their jobs back when this is all over." — Non-commissioned officer, griping in *The Grooper*, wkly newspaper of the U S group control council in Berlin, because 42-room mansion, formerly Nazi-occupied, was fixed as a club for 4,000 American enlisted men, then requisitioned for use of gen'ls and colonels.



Drake House

AMERICA'S LARGEST PUBLISHER
OF SPEECH MATERIAL

QUOTE is issued weekly by Drake House, Indianapolis, Indiana, Maxwell Drake, Editor; Lucy Hittle, Associate Editor. Subscription: \$5 per year in advance, in U. S. and Possessions. Two years, \$8. Your own and a gift subscription, \$8. Foreign, \$7 per year. Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under Act of March 3, 1879. QUOTE uses no original manuscripts; does not accept advertising. Persons using material from QUOTE should credit original sources. Unidentified items may be credited to QUOTE.



COLUMNIST'S COLUMN

V-E Day

ERNIE PYLE

When Ernie Pyle was killed by Jap machine-gun fire on Ie island, this mss was found in his pocket. It was written for release on the day of victory in Europe. Delay in transmitting the war correspondent's possessions accounts for the fact that this message was not printed earlier.

And so it is over. The catastrophe on one side of the world has run its course.

It has been 7 mo's since I heard my last shot in Europe. Now, I am as far away from it as it is possible to get on this globe. But my heart is still in Europe and that's why I am writing this column to the boys who were my friends so long. My one great regret is that I am not with them when it has ended. For the companionship of 2½ yrs of death and misery is a spouse that tolerates no divorce. . .

True, I am with American boys in the other war not yet ended, but I am old-fashioned and my sentiment runs to old things. To me the European war is old and the Pacific war is new. Last summer I wrote that I hoped the end of the war in Europe would be a gigantic relief, but not an elation. In the joyousness of high spirits it is so easy to forget the dead.

But there are so many of the living who have had burned into their brains forever the unnatural sight of cold dead men scattered everywhere. Dead men by mass production. Dead men in such monstrous infinity that you come almost to hate them.

Those are things that you at home need not even try to understand. — Abridged from *Scripps-Howard Newspapers*.

AGE—Youth

The old say: "I remember when. . ." The young say, "What's the news?"—GELETT BURGESS, *Pulpit Digest*.

BOOKS

Dr Geo Gallup, completing 2 yr test of public taste for People's Book Club (Sears, Roebuck) reveals that sex is paramount public interest in reading. "Sex never fails," he says, "particularly if set against an acceptable background."

Religious subjects come 2nd in popularity.

CHILD—Discipline

I can still give my child the discipline of hard work. True, there are no longer rails to split or woodboxes to keep full. But the regular responsibility of watering the flowers, weeding the garden, mowing the lawn, feeding the pup or shining family shoes is a fair substitute. Shoveling a path thru a tall snowdrift can teach modern young fry all the virtues of pioneering which strengthened our forefathers and helped mold their firm character.—CONSTANCE J Foster, "Things I Can Give My Child," *This Wk*, 9-16-'45.

CHURCH—Attendance

It is said that the great preacher Rowland Hill was so troubled by latecomers to his services that one Sunday morning he prayed, "O Lord, bless those mightily who are in their places; give grace to those who are on their way; and have mercy on those who are getting ready to come, and will never arrive."—EDWIN WYLE, *Religious Digest*.

CONSCIENCE

An English writer says that conscience is like a sundial telling time. During the hrs of daylight, and so long as the sun is shining, the dial will have a correct recording of the time. But when the sun is not shining, its record may be any queer report on the time.

So it is with the conscience. So long as the light of God's Word shines upon us and directs our decisions, the voice of conscience is both correct and helpful, but when it is trained in ideals not Chris-

tian, it not only will fail to give the true direction, but will make the loss all the greater because it claims to speak with authority.—*Christian Witness*.

They DO Say . . .

In this period of hurried and careless proofreading there's scarcely a periodical that hasn't had occasion to blush for shame at some glaring typographical error. (Our own countenance is a perpetual pink!) But *Farm Jnl* has set some sort of new record. In its Oct issue (pg 63) the mag contrives to misspell the name of WHEELER McMILLEN, its own editorial chief! . . . Speaking of records, maybe a new low is set by G V MARTIN, Chicago author of *Our Vines Have Tender Grapes*. Rumor has it he bartered movie rights for \$1,000. And out of that a couple of agents took their cut! . . . *Reader's Digest* will drop sponsorship of *Town Meeting of The Air*, effective Nov 29. . . *Le Courier*, new Paris tabloid out this wk, is 1st of French jnls to break with tradition, print news, rather than ponderous editorials, on front page. . . Progress note: the *Keglined* people who have been advertising, "Some day beer in cans will be back," have now altered the phrase: "Beer in cans will be back soon!"

DELINQUENCY—Juvenile

Juvenile delinquency is nothing more than the fruit which has grown from the seeds of parent delinquency, religious delinquency, education delinquency, judiciary delinquency and municipal delinquency.—Dr VINCENT P MAZZOLA.

DRINK—Drinking

In Manila, GI's occasionally drink one too many. Col J P Holland, provost marshal, has an unusual way of halting excesses. He places the intoxicated, for the night, in a room at Bilibid prison where the Japs once held American troops.

When the soldier awakens sober, he sees a sign on the blood-spat-

tered wall: "In this room free-born American soldiers died under Jap torture. Why? To guarantee you the right to behave like a free-born drunkard on the st's of Manila?"—LEONARD LYONS, syndicated column.

EDUCATION

Maybe one of the things this country needs is more education. For every student registered in a U S college, there are 3 known criminals.

FRIENDSHIP

A mother was enrolling her 6-year-old son in kindergarten. The teacher, following the usual formula, brought out her records and began to ask questions:

"Does the boy have any older brothers?"

"No."

"Younger brothers?"

"No."

"Older sisters?"

"No."

"Younger sisters?"

"No."

At this point the lad, who had grown increasingly unhappy and self-conscious, put in a wistful word. "But," he said defensively, "I've got friends." — MARJORIE BURROW.

GOD—Trust in

So many of us are like the woman in the buggy, whose horses ran away with her. Asked afterward how she felt, she said, "Well, I trusted God until the harness broke; then I shut my eyes and gave myself up for lost." Too many trust God only while the props of this world stand and when they fall we think that God has fallen too and our cause is hopeless. But then is the time to trust and see God work.—REV EGERTON C LONG, "Some Things War Cannot Touch," *Moody Monthly*, 9-'45.

HUMAN NATURE—Perversity

This ad ran in the *Atlanta* (Ga) *Constitution*:

"Cook wanted—long hrs, work hard, woman disagreeable, pay poor. Apply after 6 p m."

There were 12 telephone calls. She got her cook.—*Parade*.

INITIATIVE—Dependence

As an American citizen it is my right to use what God gave me to the best of my ability toward what I want in life, so long as I do not step on my neighbor. But if I am 4 ft high, and you are 6, I do not have a right to be provided with a box on which to stand, *unless I make it for myself!*—KNOX IDE, "Keep Business as American as Baseball," *Am Druggist*, 9-25-'45.

ISOLATION

The parable of the Good Samaritan is a condemnation of every form of isolationism.—LEWIS MUMFORD, *The Condition of Man*. (Harcourt, Brace)

MARRIAGE

Mrs Nellie Brooke Stull, editor of *My Own Heart Throbs* and allegedly the recipient of "more proposals than any other woman in the world," says, "Widows, once classed with mice and green worms, have become glamorous mosquitoes that are never satisfied with just one sting."—LEE R STEINER, *Where Do People Take Their Troubles?* (Houghton, Mifflin)

MATERIALISM

We are getting too far away from character and moral virtues, putting too much emphasis on things. The New Deal with its security from cradle to grave; the Republicans with their full dinner pail (Mr Hoover's two dinner pails!); the idealist and the communist with their satisfaction, theoretically, with no dinner pail—so long as they can prevent anybody else from having one—it all has to do with making a god of things. Sometimes the idealist, and sometimes the communist, is most materialistic of all.—GEO ST JOHN, (Headmaster, Choate School) "False Gods of Education," *The Witness*, 8-9-'45.

ORIGIN—First Rate

In the days of sailing ships, men-of-war carrying more than 100 guns were called "1st rates." Those in the "2nd rate" had 90 or more. "3rd rates" boasted about 74, and "4th rates" usually had 56. Tho the ships have vanished, the expressions, their nautical meanings forgotten, live on in our language.—*Ships*, 8-'45.



**CONFIDENTIALLY
THRU A
MEGAPHONE**

Now that the new insecticide DDT is coming into gen'l household use, health officials, entomologists and others concerned repeat their warnings that the product should be treated with a high degree of respect. There's no foundation for common belief that household form is "harmless". DDT, in powder or liquid form, is poisonous—and tricky. Don't inhale the spray—it affects the nervous system. Don't permit hands to come in direct contact with powder or liquid—it may burn, or cause dermatitis. (A good precaution before using: cover hands and face with cold cream.) Note and follow instructions on the pkg. Incidentally, Bureau of Standards is about to crack down on many opportunist mfgs who feature DDT on labels, put infinitesimal am'ts of product in wares.

Police officials are urging registration of souvenir firearms brought into U S by overseas vets. It's a move to curb post-war crime. Many thousands of the arms have been imported. Some are being sold, may drift into underworld channels.

Hollywood and London are bidding actively for services of German movie directors, actors, writers. Idea is to make pictures quickly for distribution in German-speaking countries—a rich and responsive market.

Latest gag of younger generation is to figure out fanciful ways of ans'g telephone. A current favorite: "For whom does the bell toll?"

Last wk, a Louisville bookstore was offering, at greatly reduced price, a vol titled, *How to Get Ahead in a Defense Plant*.

Microfilming of V-Mail will end about Nov 1.



AVIATION: Science now has method of floating landing strips and "bridges" on water, according to statement made this wk by British admiralty. Experimental airstrip consists of hundreds of buoyancy cans with hexagonal surfaces. These are linked together to give to the motion of the sea from any direction, yet remain sufficiently rigid to take weight of heavy aircraft. Whole surface is flexible, controlled by underwater dampers. Aircraft loaded with 9,000 lbs of freight have landed, taken off from test strip 520 ft long, 60 ft wide. Floating seadrome this size can be assembled by 40 men in hr's time. Can be taken apart, transported by ship, reassembled. (*Associated Press, London*)

" "

CALCULATING DEVICES: Judgment of speed with which a given load can be hoisted safely will pass from crane operator to new electric hoist drive. Measured mathematically by the drive, heavy loads will be lifted, lowered slowly; light loads rapidly—but never beyond maximum safe speed. If load should prove to be too great, drive will refuse to budge it. (*Business Wk*)

" "

DISTRIBUTION — Food: New nickel-in-slot machine delivers roasted egg. Roasted eggs look, taste like hard-boiled. Roasted at high temperature they can be kept indefinitely without refrigeration. Patent controlled by group Boston egg dealers. (*UP dispatch*)

" "

PRODUCTS: Wax-emulsion, war-developed by Socony-Vacuum is a non-toxic, non-inflammable mat'l which, added to rinse water of family wash, makes clothing, drapes, other textiles water-resistant. Was used by armed forces to make tent duck, uniforms, blankets, other fabrics water- and mildew-resistant. (*Forbes*)

PRAYER

Our sincerest prayers are never in words. They are the externalization of the love, the kindness, the generosity, the honesty, the usefulness in us. Goodness in action is the kind of praying that gets results.—*The Howard Way*, hm, Howard Bros Co.

PROGRESS—Effort

One day a vacationist at a remote New England farm was walking toward the village. He met a farmer mowing grass. "How long will it take me to get to town?" asked the visitor. The scythe stopped, a level glance came up. "How fast are you going to walk?" — *LORRAINE SINTON, "Prestige," Best's Insurance News, 9-'45.*

RELIGION

An old darkey got up at a revival and said: "Brudders and sistern, you all knows an' I knows dat I ain't been what I oughter been. I've robbed hen roosts and stole hogs, and tole lies, and got drunk, and slashed folks wi' mah razor and shot craps, cussed and swore—had t' kill a man onct; but I is here to thank de Lord der's one thing I ain't nebbber done: I ain't nebbber lost my religion."—*Financial Post, (Toronto)*

SAFETY—Safe Driving

Sign observed on a well-battered jalopy: "Drive what's left—right."

SERVICE

Did you ever think of God as a landlord? Well, he is, and we are his tenants. He owns the earth and we occupy it. We can't buy the space we take up, no matter how much money we may have. But we can and do rent it. The rent is paid in the service we render.—*From a sales bulletin of RETAIL CREDIT Co.*

SERVICE—to Others

The late King George V of England, after the last war, was about to make a radio address supporting the disarmament program. A few minutes before time for the program to begin a young radio technician discovered that a wire leading to the microphone was broken, and there was not sufficient time

to make repairs. Grasping the 2 ends of the wire the young man allowed the current to pass through his body so that the speech could go on the air. He served as a connecting link, and the King's voice, passing through his body, was heard around the world.—*Cpl S B BEDINGER, Jr, "The Price of Peace," Cumberland Presbyterian, 9-20-'45.*

SINCERITY

To say what you mean without ever offending people is usually to say what you mean without making them believe you mean what you say.—*JAS HILTON, So Well Remembered, (Little, Brown)*

TAXES

The difficulty, if not the practical impossibility of building up a large estate from current earnings, is emphasized by some figures quoted in *Trusts and Estates Magazine*:

If you earned \$85,000 a yr for 10 yrs, would you picture yourself as getting along toward your 1st million? Well, after deducting taxes and reasonable living expenses, you would be lucky to have \$100,000 left! Hardly enough to retire and "live off your income." That sum, at interest would yield perhaps \$40 to \$50 a wk.

THOUGHT

No brain is stronger than its weakest think.—*THOMAS L MASSON, Laughs, (Doubleday, Doran)*

VISION—in Business

The profit and loss statement must, of course, continue to be the final test of sound business policy, but there is a world of difference between the prewar business man and the business type that must now be created if both free enterprise and full employment are to be preserved. Prewar business policy in the vast majority of cases was based on a limited, short-run conception of self-interest. It was a keyhole view of profit. Postwar policy on the other hand must be based on a broad, long-run conception of self-interest. It is the panoramic view of profit.—*E JAY HOWENSTINE, Jr, "The Future of Free Enterprise," Christian Century, 9-19-'45.*

"That day so well remembered . . ."

So Well Remembered (Little, Brown, \$2.50), the new novel by JAS HILTON (author of *Lost Horizon* and *Good-Bye, Mr Chips*) is essentially the story of GEO BOSWELL, a big man in a little town—publisher of a struggling weekly newspaper, member of the Town Council and, thru the war yrs, Mayor of Browdley. Readers will enjoy, particularly, the philosophical conversations that Geo holds from time to time with his friend, Father Wendover, the Catholic priest. Here are a few random excerpts:

"So they gossip about me, do they?" Geo asked.

"On nothing malicious," ans'd Father Wendover. "In fact, you seem to be extremely popular. But they also say that you're not a God-fearing man like your father, that you don't often go to church or chapel, and that you're on good terms with atheists and agnostics."

"Aye," said Geo. "I'm on good terms with anyone who'll help me make Browdley better. Romans, Church of England, Methodists, atheists, agnostics—they're all one to me if they'll do that."

"So religion has no place in your better Browdley?"

Geo appreciated a nicely laid trap. He smiled as he had so often smiled across the Council Chamber. "Nay—I'd rather ask you if my better Browdley has a place in *your* religion. Because if it doesn't you'll not do so well at St Patrick's. I've got a lot of supporters there."

"Is that a threat, Mr Boswell?"

"No—just a tip. I've no hell-fire in my armory. All I can tell folks is that diphtheria comes from bad drains, but of course if they're more interested in pearly gates that's their lookout."

" "

The priest showed considerable interest in Geo's background, and once he said: "You'd have made a fine, upstanding atheist, if only your father had lived a bit longer."

"Maybe," Geo ans'd, "but Uncle Joe didn't continue the training, and the result is I'm no more an atheist today than you are. . . Not that he was *against* religion, mind you. He even sent me to Sunday School. . . I think it was because he thought Sunday schools were a good way of giving kids something to do when they were too dressed up to do anything else."

"Did he ever go to church?"

"Aye, when he felt like it. It's

true he felt like it less and less as he grew older, but still he counted church as part of a proper Sunday program. He used to say he'd attend regularly if Aunt Flo were a bit better on her feet, and he'd have liked to put more in the collection plate if only he hadn't lost so much in cotton investments. . . Altogether what he'd have liked to do was so well-meaning you could hardly call him irreligious, while what he actually did was so little that he interfered with nobody—not even me."

" "

"Snubs are unimportant. I've got a hide like an elephant for 'em. I'd call it my secret weapon, only it's no secret."

"It never was," said Wendover. "Most of the saints had it."

Geo grinned. "Get along with you. Don't you go calling me names!"

"All right—I won't. I can't teach you much, but perhaps there *is* one thing—a piece of advice that Christians need sometimes. While you're trying so hard to be fair to everybody, remember to include yourself. That's all."

" "

Geo swallowed hard. "So it boils down to this—we might even *lose* the bloody war?"

"I don't say we shall," ans'd Father Wendover. "I'm only speaking the thoughts that came into my mind as I was listening to you—perhaps because you *have* been wrong before when you've made such gallant prophecies."

Geo stuffed the notes into his pocket. "Then by God I'll be wrong again! Aye, and I'll not do it by halves either! I'll tell folks that Hitler's on the verge of his 1st great defeat, and that whatever else the Germans succeed in, they'll never lick England!"

So Geo did this. It was among his most quotable prophetic utterances, and one of the very few that proved completely correct.



Plutonium

DELOS AVERY

You don't know what plutonium is? Neither does the *Encyclopedia Britannica* (my edition, copyright '44). Plutonium is the newest element, the one they invented to stop the Japs with. It is element No 94. And my encyclopedia says: "The number of elements is limited. Reference to the periodic classification shows that only 92 elements up to the heaviest uranium can possibly exist."

Ask a survivor of Nagasaki!

How to Make an Atomic Bomb

First, master everything scientists have learned in the last few thousand yrs; 2nd, save all the Nobel prizes you win, put the money into Victory bonds until the total adds up to \$2 billion; 3rd, call in the best engineer you can find and say, "Here's a blank check—make me an atomic bomb."

Here is the germ of a plot, perhaps for the ultimate cosmic novel. Old Mother Nature, having locked up her secret, kept on making human brains more and more efficient. She endowed Alfred Nobel with a brain that enabled him to invent dynamite. Dynamite did some evil things and Nobel was so sorry that he left a fortune to stimulate a better use of brains. He provided prizes for achievements in physics and chemistry. Winners of those prizes have been leaders in the historic and fantastic project to make the element that "cannot possibly exist,"

The comparatively gentle dynamite which Nobel repented has grown up to be the "impossible 94." —Abridged from *Chicago Tribune*.

A chatty little blonde girl, age 4, neatly solved the Seattle Transit System's problem of overcrowding before an amused load of passengers recently. "Mommy," she inquired, "why is everybody standing up when there are so many laps to sit on!"—*Atlanta Two Bells*.

" "

A young bride was much annoyed by her husband's presence in the kitchen while she was preparing dinner. And when he accidentally knocked her cook book to the floor, she flared up.

"Now look what you've done. You've lost the place and I haven't the least idea what I'm cooking."—*Pathfinder*.

" "

Two angry candidates of opposing political beliefs rushed at each other. Friends stepped in to separate them. Each struggled to get at the other. The 1st, seeing the extremely violent efforts of the other exclaimed: "More of you men hold Jones! One man can hold me!"—*Christian Science Monitor*.



OF THE WEEK

When women get a run in those new synthetic stockings made from coal, wood and rubber, they won't know whether they have a clinker, a splinter or a blow out.—*Flaming Bomb*.

" "

He had Tarzan eyes—they swung from limb to limb.—*Camp Lejuene Globe*.

" "

GOOD HUSBAND: one who will wash up when asked and dry up when told.—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

GOOD STORIES

YOU CAN USE

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

JAMES CAGNEY

One of the problems encountered by anyone who has achieved a measure of success on the screen, is the gushing matron who tries to sell you on the movie possibilities of her offspring. One such extolled her daughter's virtues to me, adding that she was "such a sweet, lovely little thing."

Taking this as a convenient out, I explained that I rather went in for the rough and ready stuff on the screen and that her daughter would be out of place in such an environment.

"Your daughter," I concluded, pouring on the oil, "has such pure, fine qualities."

"Oh," said the lady unabashed, "I am sure something could be done about that. You do so many wonderful things out in Hollywood!"

Milton Smith had drowned in the river, and a policeman was sent to his home to break the news to his wife.

"Don't scare her to death," his superior officer warned. So the officer wended his way to the Smith home and knocked on the door. When Mrs Smith answered the summons the visitor said:

"Is this where Widow Smith lives?"

"I am Mrs Smith, but I'm not a widow."

And the caller said simply, "What will you bet?"—*Opportunity*.

The National League's redheaded "Dusty" Boggess injected sound reasoning into his profession during an exhibition game one day. A batter who was wearing glasses became somewhat annoyed at the way Boggess was calling strikes on him, and when the count had reached two and nothing, he removed his glasses and offered them to the umpire.

Boggess gratefully accepted the glasses and adjusted them to his eyes. On the next pitch, Boggess bellowed, "Strike three — you're out!"

Later Boggess admitted quite frankly, "I couldn't see the ball with the batter's glasses on, so I concluded that he couldn't see the ball with his glasses off."—*BILL STERN, Argosy*.

